

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-0261/158417.02
Application No.: 09/837,904
Office Action Dated: March 23, 2005

PATENT

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated March 23, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-31 are pending. Claims 1-31 have been rejected. Claims 1, 16 and 25 are independent claims from which claims 2-15, 17-24 and 26-31 respectively depend. Claims 1, 4, 8, 10, 16 and 31 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Support for the amendments can be found at page 2, lines 17-24 and elsewhere in the application.

While Applicant does not agree with the grounds for rejection, in the interest of furthering prosecution, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 16 to more particularly point out the invention and to correct inadvertent typographical errors. Applicant has also amended claims 4, 8, 10 and 31 to correct inadvertent typographical errors which do not change the scope of the claims. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims define over the prior art.

Confirmation of Acceptance of Formal Drawings

Applicant respectfully requests confirmation that formal drawings filed by Applicant on April 19, 2001 have been accepted.

§103(a) Rejections

Claims 1-31 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,049,838) hereinafter "Miller" in view of Leach et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,108,715) hereinafter "Leach". Applicant respectfully submits these claims are allowable for the reasons described below.

Amended claim 1 recites:

A method of protecting data comprising the acts of:

 creating a first process associated with a first address space,
 said first process comprising an executing trusted application;

 creating a second process associated with a second address space, said first address space being inaccessible to said second process, said second process created by and controlled by said first process, said second process comprising an executing untrusted application;

 running, in said first process, a first software object which stores data in said first address space;

 running, in said second process, a second software object which accesses said second address space; and

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directing, by said first process, an action performable by said second software process.

Miller is directed to inter-process messaging between program objects wherein paired transport managers, proxies, and matched table entries control communications. Each process is associated with a secret code table for object registration. Leach is directed to client invocation of remote procedures wherein a stack for the remote procedure is created and mapped into the operating system address space so that the operating system can access the client stack and the remote procedure stack. Applicant submits that neither Miller nor Leach alone or in combination disclose or suggest all the non-obvious features of Applicant's independent claims 1, 16 and 25 and their respective dependent claims.

Neither Miller nor Leach disclose or suggest at least creating a first process for a trusted application, where the first process creates and controls a second process for an untrusted application, as recited by Applicant's amended claim 1. Independent claim 16 as amended includes analogous features. Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 16 and their respective dependent claims are patentable and respectfully request the withdrawal of the 103 rejections of these claims.

With respect to independent claim 25, neither Miller nor Leach disclose or suggest at least creating a first or second window in which output is rendered, as recited by Applicant's claim 25. Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 25 and its dependent claims are patentable and respectfully request the withdrawal of the 103 rejections of these claims.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present Application is in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejections of the claims and an early allowance is earnestly solicited.

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